

Wildlife Without Borders - Marine Turtle Conservation Fund

In 2012, the USFWS awarded 42 new grants from the Marine Turtle Conservation Fund totaling \$1,828,495.00, which was matched by \$2,211,533.00 in leveraged funds. Field projects in 28 countries (in alphabetical order below) will be supported, in addition to one project that involves multiple countries.

ATLANTIC COAST AFRICA

Scientific and technical support for marine turtle conservation projects along the Atlantic Coast of Africa.

MT 12-066 **Ocean Ecology Network**

Grant# F12AP01174

FWS: \$51,618 Leveraged funds: \$27,680

Location: Atlantic Coast of Africa

This grant will provide technical support for MTCA funded projects in Morocco, Cape Verde, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Principe, Angola and Namibia and build capacity of implementing project personnel and institutions in the area of scientific techniques, methodologies and community involvement.

BARBADOS

Building capacity for conservation of hawksbill turtles in Barbados.

MT 12-037 **University of West Indies**

Grant# F12AP00327

FWS: \$36,850 Leveraged Funds: \$78,200

Location: Barbados

This grant will continue long-term conservation programs at key hawksbill nesting beaches in Barbados, home to one of the three largest hawksbill nesting populations in the Caribbean.

CAPE VERDE

Protecting loggerhead turtle nesting beaches on Boa Vista Island, Cape Verde, 2012.

MT 12-002 **Turtle Foundation**

Grant# F12AP00761

FWS: \$77,010 Leveraged Funds: \$227,983

Location: Boa Vista Island, Cape Verde

This grant will support nighttime beach patrols to protect nesting female turtles from illegal slaughter at important nesting beaches on Boa Vista which hosts 90% of the Cape Verde nesting population. The grantee will also organize the annual meeting for the Cape Verde Sea Turtle Partnership and implement public awareness programs in schools and communities throughout the island.

Protection of nesting loggerhead turtles in Cape Verde, Africa.

MT 12-012 **SOS Tartarugas**

Grant# F12AC00161

FWS: \$42,214 Leveraged Funds: \$86,686

Location: Cape Verde, Africa

This grant will support night patrols at important loggerhead nesting beaches on the island of Sal to prevent killing of nesting females, train locals to carry out marine turtle conservation activities on the islands of Sal, Maio and San Nicolau, and support conservation outreach activities on Sal to local and municipal government, police, military, citizens, and tourists.

Intensifying protection efforts to stop the widespread killing of loggerheads at major nesting beaches on the island of Maio, Cape Verde.

MT 12-046 Maio Biodiversity Foundation

Grant# F12AP00336

FWS: \$8,000 Leveraged Funds: \$1,200

Location: Island of Maio, Cape Verde

This grant will support increasing patrols by trained local community members at six main nesting beaches. The goal is to dramatically reduce the poaching of eggs and killing of nesting females to less than 10% compared to over 60% in the 2011 nesting season. The grant also supports a community education outreach program to engage local communities in sea turtle conservation issues and solutions.

Strengthening marine turtle national and international conservation strategies in Cape Verde: strict protection and proper management of loggerheads.

MT 12-030 Cabo Verde Natura 2000

Grant# F12AC00310

FWS: \$71,000 Leveraged Funds: \$202,500

Location: Cape Verde

This grant will support field staff and provide material support for two field camps that effectively protect about 75% of the nesting on the Island of Boa Vista, which accounts for 90% of the Cape Verde loggerhead nesting population. These camps cover beaches that complement the coverage of Turtle Foundation activities on Boa Vista.

CAMBODIA

Protection and management of marine turtle habitat in Cambodia's first Marine Protected Area (MPA).

MT 12-084 Flora and Fauna International

Grant# F12AP00879

FWS: \$29,999 Leveraged Funds: \$24,999

Location: Cambodia

This grant will support establishment of a 300 sq. km marine protected area around the islands of Koh Rong and Koh Sanloem and ensure integration of marine turtle conservation needs in the MPA and its management. The grantee will map turtle foraging grounds within the MPA, identify threats to marine turtles and conservation actions needed within the MPA, and provide technical and training support to Cambodia Fisheries Agency and students from University of Phnom Penh working in the MPA.

CAMEROON

Support for the creation of the Elombo Marine National Park, Cameroon.

MT 12-053

Chelonee

Grant# F12AP01159

FWS: \$13,932

Leveraged Funds: \$12,344

Location: Elombo Marine National Park, Cameroon

This grant supports nest surveys and nest protection within the proposed marine national park and enables the grantee to assist the Ministry of Environment with fishing community meetings to address concerns and opposition to the planned Park.

COSTA RICA

Sea Turtle Research, Conservation and Capacity Building at Tortuguero, Costa Rica.

MT 12-081

Sea Turtle Conservancy (STC)

Grant# F12AP00660

FWS: \$20,000

Leveraged funds: \$299,967

Location: Tortuguero, Costa Rica

This grant supports capacity building throughout Latin America and the Caribbean through STC's Tortuguero training program in marine turtle research and management techniques, community involvement, and ecotourism for regional biologists, natural resource managers and community leaders.

Regional assessment and conservation of arribada olive ridley sea turtles.

MT 12-040

Southeastern Louisiana University

Grant# F12AP00334

FWS: \$40,000

Leveraged Funds: \$31,026

Location: Costa Rica

This grant will support a continuation of simultaneous regional estimates of the olive ridley, arribada nesting populations and hatching rates in Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

COTE'D'IVOIRE

Conservation of marine turtles of Mani Beach (Ivory Coast-West Africa).

MT 12-061

SOS-Forêts

Grant# F12AP00659

FWS: \$24,948

Leveraged funds: \$29,700

Location: Cote'd'Ivoire

This grant supports a conservation project on an important leatherback nesting beach in Cote d'Ivoire. The project will involve local communities and university students to monitor and protect nests from poaching along an 18 km stretch of beach as well as conduct environmental education outreach with local communities.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Strengthening of nest monitoring and protection and launching of a sea turtle release program on

the Muanda shoreline.

MT 12-087

Action Communautaire de Developpement et d'Encadrement Social (ACODES)

Grant# F12AP01085

FWS: \$15,204

Leveraged funds: \$1,257

Location:

Democratic Republic of Congo

This grant supports a community based sea turtle conservation project along Muanda nesting beaches in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The recipient will patrol four nesting beaches to protect nesting olive ridley and leatherbacks as well as work with community artisanal fisherman to protect and release turtles captured in fishing nets. Education and awareness campaigns will also be conducted in local schools and communities.

ECUADOR

A conservation program for East Pacific green turtles nesting in the Galapagos archipelago.

MT 12-059

Charles Darwin Foundation

Grant# F12AP00885

FWS: \$35,305

Leveraged funds: \$62,878

Location:

Galapagos archipelago

This grant supports efforts to establish an integrated long term conservation program for East Pacific green turtles at Galapagos National Park through monitoring long term population trends at the primary nesting beaches, determining key threats for appropriate national park intervention, community outreach, and National Park capacity building.

EL SALVADOR

Reducing threats and sustaining hawksbill turtle conservation in El Salvador.

MT 12-033

The Ocean Foundation

Grant# F12AP00325

FWS: \$49,882

Leveraged Funds: \$70,510

Location:

El Salvador

This grant will support conservation programs for the largest remaining hawksbill nesting population in the Eastern Pacific at three sites covering 37 km of beach. The grantee will address local threats to turtles such as illegal blast fishing by training law enforcement and working to get communities to adopt sustainable fishing practices.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Equatorial Guinea 2011-2012, growing threats for sea turtle conservation.

MT 12-047

National Institute for Forestry Development and Management of Protected Areas of Equatorial Guinea

Grant# F12AP00990

FWS: \$34,000

Leveraged funds: \$23,500

Location:

Guinea

This grant supports a community based conservation project at Bioko Island, which hosts

one of the most important leatherback nesting populations in West Africa. It also supports development of a marine turtle conservation program on important mainland nesting beaches at Rio Campo as well as a national outreach campaign.

GABON

The Gabon Sea Turtle Partnership for leatherback conservation, 2012-2013.

MT 12-060 **Wildlife Conservation Society**

Grant# F12AP01122

FWS: \$200,000 Leveraged funds: \$63,037

Location: Gabon

This grant will support nesting beach conservation programs for one of the two largest leatherback nesting populations in the world through an alliance of National Park, NGO, and local community participants. The grant also supports the National Commission for National Parks to increase its capacity to address substantial sea turtle bycatch from legal and illegal coastal fisheries within and adjacent to coastal National Parks.

Sea Turtle Technical Assistance in the Gulf of Guinea, West Africa 2012-2013.

MT 12-024 **Wildlife Conservation Society**

Grant# F12AP00269

FWS: \$46,195 Leveraged Funds: \$24,656

Location: Gabon/ West Africa

This grant will support on site coordination of the Gabon Sea Turtle Partnership and provide technical support for high priority sea turtle projects in Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Sao Tome, Principe, and Equatorial Guinea. This grant will also support efforts with local Benga communities in Corisco Bay, Gabon to develop conservation activities and sustainable alternatives to sea turtle exploitation to compensate monetary loss resulting from the local 2009 ban on sea turtle harvesting.

GHANA

Strengthening the local capacity to integrate research, education, and ecotourism into meaningful sea turtle management strategies in Ghana.

MT 12-050 **Florida Gulf Coast University**

Grant# F12AP00875

FWS: \$10,858 Leveraged Funds: \$11,250

Location: Ghana

This grant supports community based nest survey and protection patrols along 20 km of nesting beach within Muni-Pomadze Marine Protected Reserve and sea turtle education programs in local schools and workshops with fishing communities.

GUINEA- BISSAU

Conservation and management of sea turtle populations in the Bijagos Archipelago (Guinea-Bissau): engaging local communities and strengthening national technical capacity.

MT 12-069 **IPSA University**

Grant# F12AP01150

FWS: \$19,936 Leveraged funds: \$28,500

Location: Bijagos Archipelago, Guinea-Bissau

This grant supports capacity building of local communities and the National Park Agency (IBAP) to carry out sea turtle conservation programs at Joao Vieira-Poilao Marine National Park and Orango National Park where poaching of nests and nesting females is still common. These Parks respectively host the largest green turtle nesting population in Africa and one of the largest olive ridley nesting population in the region.

INDIA

Expand and strengthen community involvement in sea turtle conservation program.

MT 12-041 TREE Foundation

Grant# F12AP00335

FWS: \$20,000 Leveraged Funds: \$32,960

Location: Orissa, India

This grant will support community-based sea turtle conservation projects along 120 km of nesting beaches on the Bay of Bengal involving 30 villages. Conservation efforts include nesting survey and protection activities, outreach to fishing communities to address sea turtle bycatch which impacts the major olive ridley nesting populations.

Strengthening the network for Conservation of Marine Turtles in India.

MT 12-052 Madras Crocodile Bank Trust

Grant# F12AP00881

FWS: \$55,000 Leveraged funds: \$42,000

Location: India

This grant supports the 5th Annual National Workshop that brings together network members throughout India to review action plans and assign specific responsibilities for implementation. The workshop also provides training and support for standardized monitoring protocols at index beaches to build capacity of local community members and government officials for data collection and management. The grant also supports standardized surveys of the olive ridley nesting population at Rushikulya, one of the eight remaining large olive ridley nesting populations in the world.

INDONESIA

Conservation of endangered Western Pacific leatherbacks in Jamursba Medi and Wermon Beaches of Abun MPA in Papua Barat, Indonesia.

MT 12-015 State University of Papua, Indonesia.

Grant# F12AP00107

FWS: \$85,250 Leveraged Funds: \$93,600

Location: Papua Barat, Indonesia

This grant will support conservation of the largest remaining Western Pacific leatherback nesting population and ensure the effective involvement of local communities in the recovery program.

LIBERIA

Community based sea turtle conservation project, Rivercess County, Liberia.

MT 12-074 **Save My Future (SAMFU)**

Grant# F12AP00789

FWS: \$32,000 Leveraged funds: \$3,400

Location: Rivercess County, Liberia

This grant will support continuation of community efforts to protect nesting leatherback, hawksbills and olive ridley sea turtles along 13 km of nesting beach.

Coastal protection of sea turtle in Bassa Point, Little Bassa and Edina, Liberia.

MT 12-075 **Sea Turtle Watch**

Grant# F12AP01090

FWS: \$15,004 Leveraged funds: \$6,193

Location: Liberia

This grant supports community based nest survey and protection efforts along 20 km of nesting beach and community outreach activities including establishment of four marine nature clubs with school youth, and work with local community leaders to develop community action plans to conserve sea turtles.

MEXICO

Population Restoration project for the Kemp's ridley sea turtle on the Tamaulipas coast of Mexico.

MT 12-016 **Gladys Porter Zoo**

Grant# F12AP00205

FWS: \$19,000 Leveraged Funds: \$0

Location: Tamaulipas coast, Mexico

This grant will provide funds for two ATVs for beach patrols to monitor and protect nesting activities along the main Kemp's ridley nesting beaches in Mexico as well support conservation education outreach activities with local communities.

Biological monitoring and surveillance of sea turtle nesting beaches in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico.

MT 12-017 **Pronatura Peninsula de Yucatan, A.C**

Grant# F12AP00266

FWS: \$24,958 Leveraged Funds: \$29,043

Location: Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico

This grant will support monitoring and nesting beach conservation programs for three major hawksbill nesting beaches in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico, as well as public outreach and awareness programs in communities adjacent to the nesting beaches.

Conservation of the Japanese nesting loggerhead turtle: mortality assessment and outreach at the BCS Mexico juvenile foraging area.

MT 12-034 **The Ocean Foundation**

Grant# F12AP00326

FWS: \$27,154 Leveraged Funds: \$62,718

Location: Baja California Sur (BCS), Mexico

This grant will support the continued systematic stranding surveys of BCS, which is an important way of assessing the impacts of local fisheries on the major loggerhead foraging site at BCS. This grant will also support outreach efforts while working with local communities, fishers, and other stakeholders to address the sea turtle bycatch mortality issue.

Conservation of the leatherback turtle in the Mexican Pacific, 2012-2013 nesting season.

MT 12-049 Kutzari

Grant# F12AP00978

FWS: \$92,722 Leveraged Funds: \$105,365

Location: Mexico

This grant supports nest surveys and protection at the four primary leatherback nesting beaches which account for over 40% of leatherback nesting in Pacific Mexico. The grantee will operate turtle camps at the four main nesting beaches of Cahuitan, Tierra Colorada, Mexiquillo and Barra de la Cruz, and conduct daily and nightly patrols along these beaches to protect nests from poaching, depredation and tidal inundation. The grantee will also provide technical support and training for a community-based group working at the important secondary beach of Chacahua-La Tuza.

Population recovery of the black sea turtle of Michoacán, Mexico.

MT 12-054 University of Michoacán

Grant# F12AP01088

FWS: \$24,999 Leveraged funds: 0

Location: Michoacán, Mexico

This grant will support a community based nesting beach conservation program for the black turtle at Colola and Maruata Beaches, the two most important nesting beaches for this species in the East Pacific.

NAMIBIA

Building capacity to promote leatherback research and conservation in Namibia.

MT 12-031 Namibian Coast Conservation and Management Project (NACOMA)

Grant# F12AP00781

FWS: \$10,000 Leveraged Funds: \$3,200

Location: Namibia

This grant will support efforts to strengthen the Namibian stranding network and provide training to improve data collection of in-water sea turtle sightings, particularly of foraging leatherbacks in Walvis Bay. This grant will provide an important expansion to the FWS West African leatherback initiative focusing on a potentially critical foraging site for the West African nesting population.

NICARAGUA

Strengthening conservation of critically endangered leatherback and hawksbill marine turtles on

Nicaragua's Pacific coast.

MT 12-020

Flora and Fauna International

Grant# F12AP00267

FWS: \$58,607

Leveraged Funds: \$58,160

Location: Pacific coast of Nicaragua

This grant will support nesting beach conservation programs for the three most important East Pacific leatherback populations in Nicaragua and a hawksbill conservation program at the recently discovered nesting site at Estero Padre Ramos. This site accounts for 40-50% of all East Pacific hawksbill nesting. Grantee will work closely with local communities and stakeholders as partners in the conservation programs.

Conservation of Hawksbill Turtles in Caribbean, Nicaragua.

MT 12-023

Wildlife Conservation Society

Grant# F12AP00268

FWS: \$68,001

Leveraged Funds: \$58,160

Location: Caribbean, Nicaragua

This grant will support the monitoring and protection of hawksbill nesting populations on twelve of the Pearl Keys and 42 km of beach at El Cocal and supports efforts with local communities to develop and expand conservation through ecotourism.

PANAMA

Hawksbill and leatherback turtle research and population recovery project in Panama.

MT 12-014

Sea Turtle Conservancy

Grant# F12AP00206

FWS: \$54,725

Leveraged Funds: \$42,775

Location: Panama

This grant will support efforts to restore Chiriqui Beach's hawksbill nesting population turtles once the largest in the Caribbean. This project is in partnership with the local Nogbe Indian communities and will also support monitoring and protection of the largest leatherback nesting population in the Western Caribbean.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Marine turtle monitoring and protection in the Republic of Congo.

MT 12-068

Renatura

Grant# F12AP01127

FWS: \$24,999

Leveraged funds: \$33,482

Location: Republic of the Congo

This grant will support efforts to protect nesting leatherback and olive ridley sea turtles along 20 km of nesting beach adjacent to Conkouati-Douli National Park as well as continuation of a turtle bycatch release program with local fisherman that releases approximately 1,500 turtles annually. An environmental outreach program with local communities is an integral component of the project.

Marine turtle monitoring and conservation tools in Conkouati-Douli National Park, *Republic of*

Congo, 2012-2013.

MT 12-080

Wildlife Conservation Society

Grant# F12AP00703

FWS: \$71,717

Leveraged funds: \$45,782

Location: Conkouati-Douli National Park, Republic of Congo

This grant would support a leatherback conservation program along 60 km of leatherback nesting beach within Conkouati-Douli National Park which is contiguous with the major leatherback nesting population in Mayumba National Park, Gabon. This grant will also support marine enforcement patrols by the Park in the waters extending five km from the Park's shoreline to deter illegal foreign industrial fishing vessels which are the cause of sea turtle bycatch mortality within the Park.

SIERRA LEONE

Continued development of a marine turtle conservation program for Sierra Leone, and leatherback conservation initiative at the Turtle and Bonthe/Sherbro Islands.

MT 12-057

Edward Aruna

Grant# F12AP01063

FWS: \$67,445

Leveraged funds: \$9,262

Location: Sierra Leone

This grant supports community based conservation programs for marine turtle conservation at key leatherback nesting beaches in Sierra Leone with a special emphasis on community involvement, capacity building, and environmental outreach with fisherman and local communities.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Solomon Islands community based leatherback monitoring, education, and awareness programs for Tetepare and Rendova Island.

MT 12-065

Tetepare Descendants Association

Grant# F12AP01149

FWS: \$31,224

Leveraged funds: \$8,500

Location: Tetepare and Rendova Island

This grant will support community based nesting beach conservation programs for two important leatherback nesting beaches in the Solomon Islands which are part of the critically endangered West Pacific leatherback nesting population.

SPAIN

Building capacity to reduce bycatch mortality from Spanish fisheries impacting NW Atlantic nesting loggerhead population.

MT 12-070

KAI Marine Services

Grant# F12AP00991

FWS: \$30,250

Leveraged funds: \$45,125

Location: Fisheries in the Atlantic

This grant supports workshops for captains and crews of Spanish long line fisheries

vessels, which are the most impactful fleet in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean for loggerhead bycatch. Captains and crews will be taught bycatch mitigation measures, safe handling, and release techniques for turtles. A website will be developed to enable the rapid dissemination of information to scientists, fisherman and government policymakers in the Mediterranean region on bycatch issues and reduction measures.

SRI LANKA

Community based in-situ marine turtle nest protection and research program at Kosgoda and Rekawa in Sri Lanka.

MT 12-039 **Turtle Conservation Project**

Grant# F12AP00328

FWS: \$15,000 Leveraged Funds: \$58,400

Location: Sri Lanka

This grant will support community-based nest survey and protection efforts as well as educational outreach activities at a regionally important nesting beach. This project is a model program and serves as a demonstration project for the poorly managed nesting beaches throughout Sri Lanka.

OMAN

Strategic development of initiatives for marine turtle conservation at Masirah Island, Oman.

MT 12-035 **Oman Ministry of Environment and Climate Affairs and Environment Society of Oman**

Grant# F12AP00294

FWS: \$99,000 Leveraged Funds: \$120,820

Location: Masirah Island, Oman

This grant will improve marine turtle conservation by providing support for: (1) the Ministry of Environment rangers to conduct nesting surveys to monitor population trends of the world's largest loggerhead nesting population; and (2) a public outreach program for marine turtle conservation issues in Oman which includes a special outreach effort to Masirah Island community with a Turtle Celebration event at the beginning of the loggerhead nesting season.

VIETNAM

Support community based marine turtle nesting beach conservation in Vietnam.

MT 12-045 **The World Conservation Union – Vietnam**

Grant# F12AP00225

FWS: \$54,648 Leveraged Funds: \$35,134

Location: Vietnam

This grant will support community-based sea turtle conservation programs targeted at restoration of a once significant but now depleted leatherback nesting population and a community-based hawksbill conservation project for a depleted nesting and foraging population in and near Bai Tu Long National Park.

Immediate action to reduce the commercial trade of marine turtles in Vietnam.

MT 12-006

Education for Nature -Vietnam

Grant# F12AP00295

FWS: \$19,840

Leveraged Funds: \$9,581

Location: Vietnam

This grant will support efforts to identify key centers of activity for illegal take and trade of sea turtles as well as efforts to work with media and key national, regional, and local decision makers, and law enforcement officials to address the illegal hunting.